

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

S E C R E T STATE 081725

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, PBOR, SO, KE, ET, DJ

SUBJECT:MISSION OF SPECIAL EMISSARY TO SOMALIA:
TALKING POINTS

REF: STATE 077671

1. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES TALKING POINTS FOR YOUR USE
IN BRIEFING EPMG ON RESULTS OF MISSION TO MOGADISCIO
OF SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL EMISSARY MOOSE.

2. YOU SHOULD PREFACE YOUR PRESENTATION BY SAYING
THAT WE ARE PROVIDING THIS INFORMATION TO EPMG
BECAUSE OF OUR DESIRE TO DEAL IN STRAIGHTFORWARD
MANNER WITH THE EPMG ON A MATTER OF OBVIOUS INTEREST

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TO ETHIOPIA. WE BELIEVE IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT
FOR US TO BE ABLE TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS FORTH-
RIGHTLY IN VIEW OF THE INDICATIONS (SUCH AS THE
RECENT MOFA STATEMENT REGARDING DJIBOUTI) THAT THE
EPMG IS BEING PROVIDED WITH ERRONEOUS REPORTS ABOUT
OUR DEALINGS WITH SOMALIA. TO ENABLE US TO PROVIDE
AS FULL AND FRANK A REPORT AS POSSIBLE, WE MUST

STRESS THAT WHAT WE HAVE TO REPORT IS BEING CONVEYED TO THE EPMG IN STRICT CONFIDENCE.

3. TALKING POINTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. THE SPECIAL EMISSARY HAD FOUR LONG AND DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH SIAD. A MAJOR SUBJECT OF THE DISCUSSIONS WAS THE IMPORTANCE WHICH PRESIDENT CARTER ATTACHES TO SOMALIA RESPECTING ITS NEIGHBORS' TERRITORY. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS IS A SUBJECT OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO THE EPMG AND SOMALIA'S OTHER NEIGHBORS.

B. THE DISCUSSIONS ALSO COVERED SOMALIA'S NEEDS IN THE FIELDS OF RELIEF, DEVELOPMENT AND DEFENSE, AND THE POSSIBLE ROLE OF THE U.S. IN MEETING SOME OF THESE NEEDS.

C. THE SPECIAL EMISSARY MADE CLEAR THE WILLINGNESS OF THE U.S. TO PROVIDE FURTHER HUMANITARIAN RELIEF TO SOMALIA, TO CONTINUE ONGOING DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES AND TO CONSIDER INCREASING DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA. AS THE EPMG IS AWARE, THE UNITED STATES HAS REPEATEDLY MADE CLEAR ITS INTEREST IN CONTINUING TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA ALSO, AS TO ALL THE COUNTRIES
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OF THE REGION.

D. IN THE DEFENSE FIELD, THE EMISSARY CONFIRMED THE WILLINGNESS OF THE U.S. TO PROVIDE SOMALIA WITH SOME MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR DEFENSIVE PURPOSES. THE EMISSARY MADE CLEAR TO PRESIDENT SIAD THAT ANY SUCH SUPPLIES WOULD BE STRICTLY LIMITED TO THE NEEDS OF A SOMALIA WILLING TO LIVE WITHIN ITS RECOGNIZED TERRITORY, AND WOULD BE CONTINGENT ON OUR RECEIVING FROM SOMALIA SATISFACTORY ASSURANCES THAT IT WILL RESPECT THE TERRITORY OF ETHIOPIA, DJIBOUTI AND KENYA. THE EMISSARY EMPHASIZED THAT THE RECENT OGADEN CONFLICT DEMONSTRATED THE UNIVERSALITY OF OPPOSITION TO EFFORTS TO ALTER BORDERS THROUGH VIOLENT MEANS- NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED REGARDING FUTURE U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

E. THE EMISSARY ALSO DISCUSSED WITH PRESIDENT SIAD THE QUESTION OF THE NEED FOR A LONG-TERM RESOLUTION TO THE UNDERLYING PROBLEMS OF THE HORN REGION, INCLUDING THE PROBLEM OF THE UNDEFINED PORTION OF THE BORDER BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA. THE U.S. SIDE

ASSURED THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT OF OUR SUPPORT FOR OAU

EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A LASTING SOLUTION TO THE
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA.

F. THE RESULTS OF THE MISSION ARE NOW UNDER REVIEW
IN WASHINGTON.

4. PLEASE REPORT ANY EPMG REACTION TO BRIEFING
SOONEST. COOPER

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